

Political.

Hon. John Branch.—The following correspondence we find in a late number of the *Halifax Advertiser*, which we give to our readers without comment.

Windsor, 14th May, 1831.

SIR: The undersigned, citizens of the 2d Congressional District, reposing entire confidence in your talents and political experience, are solicitous that you should become a candidate to represent this district in the next Congress. We do believe that the present state of parties renders it essentially important that we should be able to represent in that body. The recent attack on the administration by Mr. Tazewell, however correct the principle for which he contended, we are constrained to believe it mainly resulted from a disposition on his part, to render odious the then administration. We greatly deplore the discord and dissension that have been produced by the alleged intrigues of Mr. Van Buren, and by the publication of Mr. Calhoun's opinions of the existence of the former, we are destitute of proof, but the baneful influence of the latter is too palpable to be overlooked by any friend of the President. At the next session of Congress, it is believed that an effort (with some, perhaps a last effort) will be made to modify the present tariff, so as to render it less burdensome to the South. The renewal of the charter of the U. S. Bank, may be expected to become a topic of discussion in the course of a few more sessions. We firmly believe that such institutions have no warrant in our constitution, and are perfectly convinced that if it were constitutional, that its dangers far transcend its benefits.

We have, sir, frankly stated our feelings and opinions. We trust that they are in accordance with yours, and we are free to say, that if the fact be so, that there is no man in this district or State whom we would select to represent us sooner than yourself.

Geo. B. Outlaw, Rob. C. Watson,
I. S. Webb, J. Webb,
Thos. J. Pugh, Dav. Outlaw,
Geo. O. Akers, Jos. S. Jones,
A. W. McNamee, Wm. Watson,
John E. Wood, John Haywood,
James Dyer, J. Watford,
Thos. H. Speller, Lewis Thompson,
David Ryan,
Hon. JOHN BRANCH.

Enfield, May 31st, 1831.

GENTLEMEN: Yours of the 14th instant, post-marked, Windsor the 21st came to hand a few days past. The confidence which you have been so kind as to express in my talents and political experience, and the desire you have manifested that I should become a candidate to represent this District in the next Congress of the U. States together with the frank manner in which you have given your opinion of certain men and measures with a view to elicit mine, merit my respectful consideration and shall receive my prompt attention. I most decidedly concur with you in believing that discord has been introduced into the ranks of the administration by the intrigues of selfish politicians. A short time, I trust, will be sufficient to enable the intelligent enquirer to obtain the whole truth.

Until then, perhaps, it would be the part of prudence to leave the question open, and rely on the righteous judgment of the people. However, recognizing your undoubted right to know all my opinions, both as to the prominent men and leading measures of the country, I will with that frankness which has ever characterized my conduct, give you unreservedly my impressions, under a confident hope that as you have called for them, at a period when I must necessarily incur a heavy responsibility in giving them, that you will extend to me your generous charities for any error into which I may be thus incautiously led; for there is nothing about such men as is so apt to differ, nay to err, as in their opinion of men.

In the first place, then, as to the motives which influenced Mr. T. in his course in the Senate of the United States on the Turkish mission, I profess to know nothing. With Mr. Van Buren, I have had frequent, personal & official intercourse, and the time was when he possessed my confidence. Mr. Calhoun's private virtues and public services, particularly during the war, together with his high order of talent, always commanded my respect; but his latitudinarian political doctrines during Mr. Monroe's administration, met my disapprobation. Hence it is

that no one, correctly informed, ever considered me his political partisan. As to myself, I can truly say that I have no person in view for the succession. I am at a loss to say who among the prominent politicians I ought to support. Fortunately for me and the country, this question may yet be advantageously postponed.

The present controversy between Gen. Jackson and Mr. Clay, can never divide Southern politicians to any extent. The "American System," the hobby of the latter has but few advocates among southern planters, and its author still fewer adherents. On Gen. Jackson then, who is himself a planter, we must depend, with a confident reliance on the justice of Congress for relief against the oppression of a system of exactions, which if persevered in, must ultimately lead to the most calamitous results. The great and fundamental principles which divide our country into parties, are of momentous concern, and are every way worthy of the undivided vigilance of the American people. The Journals of the Senate of the United States for the six years that I was a member of that body, will best show my opinions on the Tariffs of 1824 and '28, which now threaten the repose of the Union, and the prosperity of the Southern country. These afford an earnest of the course which I shall feel it to be my duty to pursue in reference to any measures which may be calculated to repeal or mitigate this "bill of abominations," as it has been emphatically called by one of its present most active and efficient supporters.

The next point, to which you invite my attention, is the Bank of the United States. I am unable to perceive how I can vote for the renewal of the charter in any form. My opinion in relation to Banks is of long standing, and has, in North Carolina at least, become somewhat a matter of public notoriety. I have believed that it was the intention of the framers of the Federal Constitution, that the currency of the U. States should have been metallic, and I inferred this from the technical language employed, and the exclusive power given to Congress to coin money and regulate its value, with the positive inhibition on the States to do the same thing, or to emit bills of credit, or to make any thing but gold and silver coin a tender in payment of debts. But the ingenuity of man has sought out many inventions, and the person would be thought mad, who, at this day, would seriously urge the above opinion, finding that every State in the Union, has chartered Banks and thereby indirectly regulated the value of money as effectually as though they had the power to coin it.

A national bank has been recommended by the President with certain well confined powers. I am persuaded that the President's views have never been fairly presented or understood. He, I am sure, never contemplated the establishment of such a hideous monster as his political opponents have conjured up. Such an institution in the hands of the executive, for any other purpose, or with any other powers than the transmission of government funds, from one part of the Union to another, I should deprecate as the greatest calamity that could befall the country.

Thus, gentlemen, I have responded to you fully and freely. I have no concealments in politics. My principles remain now, as in 1798, when they were first formed at College. They have undergone no change that I am sensible of. "They have grown with my growth, and strengthened with my strength."

I have the honor to be, with the highest respect, your fellow citizen,

JOHN BRANCH.

To Messrs. Geo. B. Outlaw,
Rob. C. Watson, &c. &c.

FROM THE BANKER OF THE CONSTITUTION.

The war at this day carried on throughout the world between the advocates of Free Trade and the Restrictive System, is one really in which the principle contended for, is, whether goods shall be cheap or dear, whether the people shall have two loaves of bread for their dinner, or one. On the side of Free Trade, although they may not know it, are arrayed, all the philosophers who by their studies and researches into the hidden branches of knowledge, are every day drawing out fresh treasures of wisdom, which are freely spread before the human family, that each individual may profit by their discoveries; all the men of science and mechanical genius, who are constantly

discovering the labor-saving machinery, by which the product of industry whether employed in agriculture, commerce, or manufactures may be attained with less labor than before—all the industrious classes of farmers, mechanics, navigators, merchants, artisans, and manufacturers; who, by increased skill in their business, closer application, and the observance of economy in time and expenditure, are every moment increasing the productive powers of land and labor. On the same side are enrolled all the statesmen of Europe and America, who truly deserve that appellation, and all the philanthropists who are occupied in those unceasing exertions to better the condition of the poor, which we see every where exhibited. In fine, on the side of Free Trade are to be found, all those, in every part of the world, who understand the true nature of liberty, and who exert themselves to establish its true principles in order that the whole human family may enjoy the greatest possible extent of comfort and blessings, which their labor is capable of producing.

On the restrictive side, are to be found in every country, the monopolists of every description, from the man who lives as the great landlords of England do, by plundering the poor man of half his loaf, to the man who robs him of one of his coats, or insists upon it that he shall have but half a spoonful of sugar to his cup of tea that they may ride in coaches, and riot in luxury. On the same side, are to be found, no small number of honest but deluded people, who for want of opportunity, or the ability to examine abstract and difficult questions, have been led into error—and a host of politicians and quack statesmen, who having no knowledge of the subject of political philosophy, seize upon the Restrictive System, as a hobby upon which they may ride into power. To this party also belongs in this country, a few individuals who understand the true nature of the question, but who have not principle, or independence enough to stand up in opposition to the doctrines which their consciences condemn.

The efforts of the Free Trade party, are to make things cheap, or, in other words, procurable for the least possible quantity of labor called for by the lights and improvements of the age. The efforts of the restrictive party are to make things dear, that is, cost more labor than is absolutely necessary to procure them. Thus far however, philosophy, science, ingenuity, and skill, have beat their opponents. Every few days almost we see announced some invention or improvement, by which some article can be had cheaper than before, or, of a better quality at the same price, which is the same thing. The power of steam carries the boat faster one way, than the tide carries it the other way, and thus in spite of all the efforts of the restrictive party, she makes headway through the water.

The following is part of a late editorial article in the *Richmond Enquirer*. It holds the proper tone upon the subject of federal usurpation, and is particularly acceptable, as there is no doubt that, as far as it goes, it correctly represents the prevailing feeling of Virginia. We believe, however, that public sentiment in Virginia, in relation to the Tariff, is far ahead of the *Enquirer*:

Charleston Mercury.

"The time is coming, when the true theory of this Constitution is to be brought to its test. If it fails, then 'clouds and darkness rest upon us.' The Union itself may pass under one of the deepest eclipses which has ever obscured it. The South will never submit to a continued system of exaction, for the emolument of some manufacturing section. Let it once be understood, that this Government is to be so changed from the original purposes of its formation, as that, in spite of the spirit of the restrictions of the charter a revenue is to be raised on the South for the benefit of the North—that taxes are to be laid, not for the purpose of paying off the debt, and the necessary expenses of the Government, but to carry on a great and splendid scheme of internal improvement—to raise from the States, and then to distribute a large surplus among them—to pay off their debts, contracted for the purpose of making their own roads and canals—and pay off millions of pension money—Then, indeed will the rub come.—The South will not submit to such a state of things. The next Congress may be the period of trial. If it should be found that they are determined to maintain it in all its excesses—that even the extinction of the public debt, is not to be the signal of a reduction of the Tariff to meet the necessary point of expenditure, we look forward to a great change in the tone of the whole Southern people; not to speak of other sections of the Union. Efficient means will, in all probability, be employed to produce 'a pull, and a strong pull, and a pull altogether.'—A special Convention may be called for the purpose of co-operation and of action."

The subject of the constructive powers of Congress, is one of intense, and increasing interest to the people of the South.



MASTHEAD OF THE SALISBURY

Salisbury

JUNE 20, 1831.

At a meeting, of the citizens of the Town of Salisbury, called and held at the Court-House, on Monday the 13th inst., for the purpose of making suitable arrangements, for the celebration of the approaching anniversary of our independence, Major James Sead was called to the chair, and Col. Henry Giles appointed Secretary. Jas. E. Kerr, Esq. was appointed Officer of the day and a committee was appointed to wait on him to invite him to deliver the Oration, which invitation was accepted.

Charles Fisher, Esq. was appointed to read the Declaration of Independence. David F. Caldwell, Esq. was appointed marshal of the day, and Capt. M. M. Clayland, assistant marshal. A committee was appointed to conduct for furnishing a dinner upon the occasion, and the following gentlemen appointed a committee of tests: Dr. L. Mitchell, L. Bingham, E. Craige, D. Meenan and D. F. Caldwell, Esqrs.

A committee was appointed to wait on the Presbyterian Minister to ask the loan of his Church for the celebration and to invite him to open the ceremonies of the day by prayer; and to invite the Revolutionary soldiers.

JUN. SNEED, Chairman.

HENRY GILES, Secretary.

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Union among ourselves.—History is filled with examples of the fatality which has been produced to a cause by a division among its friends. We were led to the remark, just made, by that want of unanimity,—of concert among the friends of State Republicanism, which is daily growing greater and greater, and which we fear will be attended with the overthrow of that party which alone can secure to us equal laws and equal privileges. We hope for its sake,—for the prosperity of the country, that each and every of its friends will remember that now is an important,—an eventful period in the history of this country. They should remember, too, how unabating in their zeal are our opponents; what a powerful party is now forming, the strength of which is daily becoming greater; powerful not by numbers, indeed, but by the zeal,—the unanimity that pervades it. They should remember, too, who is its leader. A man who once filled a large space in the eye of the community and whom we were once proud to call Republican,—who once said that Gen. Jackson "had filled the measure of his country's glory," and whose integrity was never doubted until his "virtue was choked with foul ambition" and he had forsaken the Republican party, and had formed a base coalition with its deadliest enemy. This is the man who heads the opposition. And being possessed of the most consummate skill in political management aided and seconded by a mind as unceasing and active,—not one of its powers but are vigilant and untiring; no stupor—no lethargy ever comes over any of them, but they are all in the field, planting the seeds that may eventually ripen and blast our prospects forever. But his party is yet small, if we take a timely start we may crush it before it acquires strength, but the longer we delay the more difficult will it be.

We must exert ourselves; we must forget our personal predilections and look with an eye singly to the election of him who alone can unite the Republican party; we must imitate our personal bickerings upon the altar of the public good and present a repetition of the Scenes of '93, which would surely be the consequence of the election of Mr. Clay. Genl. Jackson has done more good to the public than any President since the days of Mr. Jefferson. He has put a stop to the lavish expenditure of the public money which was the characteristic of the preceding administration; He has placed our West India trade upon a sure and good footing; He has turned his face against the corruptions of the bank; He has cleansed the Augean stables of the Slith with which they were filled. "He has enlarged our intercourse with America, Europe and Asia—revived our commerce—secured indemnity from Denmark—triumphed in our negotiations with Great Britain and caused the American flag, for the first time to pass the Dardanelles under a treaty with Turkey." And shall we not elect such a man to the Presidency for another term? Will he be turned out by the cries of a discontented faction? No. He cannot—he will not be defeated; but in 1835, as in 1815 he will achieve a victory, the effects of which will be reflected from the purity and the soundness of the body politic in after times.

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The Huntsville Democrat says that the agents of the United States Bank have been travelling through the Western States, looking out for places to locate its branches. They wish to involve the people in debt to the Bank so as to force them to renew its charter. This is in perfect accordance with the general course of its policy. We hope the people will look to it, and put down all such attempts to force upon them an institution of which they can entertain no other opinion than that it is a base aristocracy which is continually grasping for power and money.

The Federal Union.—It is to be preserved.

Our indignation and contempt, have frequently struggled for the mastery, against those who are attempting, continually, the words which bind the articles of the same time, they are undervaluing by their conduct the very union which they seem so anxious to preserve. Is there any thing to be gained in those who in one and the same breath say "The Federal Union—it must be preserved" and that the Congress of the United States should exercise its constitutional power, a power not granted to them by the states thereby breaking down the only thing that can preserve our liberties and the Union entire? What would you think of the homony of that man with whom you had formed a co-partnership and who would suddenly say that the Partnership must be preserved, when one day he was breaking some one of the articles of your agreement? You could place no faith in such a man. Just so with those who are continually crying "The Federal Union—it must be preserved" and at the same time doing every thing in their power to break the ligament which binds these states one with another. Is not the analogy good? Will you not bear us out in our application of the case of the co-partnership, to the Union of these States. The States when they formed the federal compact bound themselves and the federal head by a certain written agreement, can you then call him the exclusive, can you call him any friend to your country who would attempt to deviate from the articles of that agreement? But of late days it seems to be so common to break an agreement which ought to be held sacred and inviolable that nothing is thought of it,—by some it is looked upon as a matter of course. But we fear the day is not far distant when every man will think of these violations of a sacred agreement, when every man will see who are the friends of Union,—those who contend for the spirit and letter of the constitution or those who look upon it as a mere nominal thing to be soiled by, or broken through as the caprice or rather the capidity of a corrupt Congress may think proper. Yes! We fear the day is not far distant when every man will see the government of our own grand consolidated machinery, ruled and governed by some despot or when it will run into the other extreme of anarchy and bloodshed. May the dismember of all good forbid to drop a stab to the liberties of enlightened man. And if such a day ever does arrive as that when this country will be a monarchy or in a state of anarchy may the vengeance of heaven rest upon those despots of the fairest system of government that ever had an actual existence!

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In the supreme court a fit tribunal for the decision of questions where the States, and the Govt. Government are parties? We answer, as we have heretofore done, no. And we expect our answer will be treated as the same answer always has been by a certain party,—we expect that they will say it is a new and dangerous answer to the question. We have seen what such men say;—their opinions will neither injure or benefit us. The answer given to one which we have come to, after carefully weighing the arguments on both sides of the question. And arriving at such a conclusion honestly, we express it without regard to the taunts of those who differ with us. It is not, however, as some of them have conceived a novel opinion nor are the arguments by which it has been sustained, new. It was the opinion of a great man, not less than any this country can now boast of,—it was the opinion of the father of the Republican party,—it was the opinion of a man whose patriotism is without a stain,—it was the opinion of Thomas J. Erskine. And we will not merely say so but we will quote his own language in that he who runs may read:

"All have been influenced of interest on the mind of man, how unconsciously his judgment is influenced by that influence. To this bias add that of the esprit de corps, of their peculiar training and creed 'that it is the office of a good judge to enlarge his jurisdiction' and the absence of responsibility; and how can we expect an impartial decision between the Genl. Government, of which they are themselves so eminent a part and an individual State, from which they have nothing to hope or to fear?"

That the power of deciding in the case mentioned is not safely lodged in the supreme court of the U. S. no one will now be hardly enough to say, is a new opinion. They but have to refer to the 65th page of the 1st volume of Mr. Jefferson's works and they will see the words which we have just quoted. And that the opinion is not a dangerous one; but that in the contrary the exercise of that power is dangerous—is as easily demonstrated. They are a party interested. Would any man be willing to leave a case of his (a mere money matter) to one that was interested in the decision? We believe not. Is it then in accordance with that spirit of Christian charity, which says "do as you would wish to be done," to make the supreme court, (an interested party) the arbiter in a case between the Genl. Government and the States? If you are unwilling to leave a mere money matter to the decision of one interested, why are you willing to leave cases where our dearest rights,—your life, your liberty and your property, are concerned? Would a decision, in the case supposed, argue one jot or tittle in favor of one side or other of such questions, in your minds? If, for example, they were to say that it was constitutional for the Genl. Government to appropriate money for the improvement of the internal condition of any State, could that make you believe it constitutional if you had been of a contrary opinion before? Will

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